

**PENDING CLAIMS AS AMENDED**

Please amend the claims as follows:

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1. (Original) A method for forward link power control in a wireless communication system during soft handoff, the method comprising:
  - detecting a quality of a signal received at a base station transceiver subsystem engaged in a soft handoff of a communication with a wireless device;
  - instructing the base station transceiver subsystem to improve the signal quality if the quality is below a predefined target signal quality;
  - instructing the wireless device to increase a pilot channel transmit power level; and
  - instructing the wireless device to decrease a power gain of other channels in relation to the pilot channel.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein[[:] the power gain of other channels in relation to the pilot channel is decreased by an amount that is equal to an amount by which the pilot channel transmit power level is increased.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein[[:] the power gain of other channels in relation to the pilot channel is decreased by an amount that is more than an amount by which the pilot channel transmit power level is increased.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein[:] the instructing the base station transceiver subsystem to improve the signal quality is performed in response to decreasing a required frame error rate for data received at the base station transceiver subsystem.
5. (Original) An apparatus for forward link power control in a wireless communication system, comprising:

a first processor configured to detect a quality of a signal received at a base station transceiver subsystem engaged in a soft handoff of a communication with a wireless device, and to instruct the base station transceiver subsystem to improve the signal quality if the quality is below a predefined target signal quality; and

a second processor coupled to the first processor and configured to instruct the wireless device to increase a pilot channel transmit power level, and to decrease a power gain of other channels in relation to the pilot channel.

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6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein[[;]] the first processor is further configured to instruct the base station transceiver subsystem to improve the signal quality by decreasing a required frame error rate for data received at the base station transceiver subsystem.

7. (Currently Amended) A base station transceiver subsystem configured to engage in a soft handoff of a communication with a wireless device comprising:

a processor; and

a storage medium coupled to the processor and containing a set of instructions executable by the processor to detect a quality of a signal received at a base station transceiver subsystem engaged in a soft handoff of a communication with a wireless device[[;]], instruct the base station transceiver subsystem to improve the signal quality if the quality is below a predefined target signal quality[[;]], instruct the wireless device to increase a pilot channel transmit power level[[;]], and instruct the wireless device to decrease a power gain of other channels in relation to the pilot channel.

8. (Currently Amended) The base station transceiver subsystem of claim 7, wherein[[;]] the set of instructions is further executable by the processor to instruct the base station transceiver subsystem to improve the signal quality by decreasing a required frame error rate for data received at the base station transceiver subsystem.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method of power control in a wireless communication system, ~~the method~~ comprising:

detecting a quality of a signal received at a base station transceiver subsystem from a wireless device engaged in a soft handoff with the base station transceiver subsystem, the signal comprising a feedback channel and a second channel; and

increasing power of the feedback channel without increasing power of the second channel if the detected signal quality is less than a threshold.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the feedback channel includes a power control bit.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the feedback channel comprises a pilot channel having the power control bit.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the second channel comprises a traffic channel.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the power of the second channel is set by a gain applied to a power level equal to the power of the pilot channel, the gain being decreased with the increase in the power of the pilot channel.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the gain is decreased by an amount equal to an amount by which the pilot channel power is increased.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the gain is decreased by an amount that is more than an amount by which the pilot channel power is increased.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the power of the feedback channel is increased by decreasing a target frame error rate for the signal received at the base station transceiver subsystem.

19. (Previously Added) A communications system, comprising:  
a first processor configured to detect a quality of a signal received at a base station transceiver subsystem from a wireless device engaged in a soft handoff with the base station transceiver subsystem, the signal comprising a feedback channel and a second channel; and

a second processor configured to instruct the wireless device to increase power of the feedback channel without increasing power of the second channel if the detected signal quality is less than a threshold.

20. (Currently Amended) The communications system of claim 19, wherein the feedback channel includes a power control bit.

21. (Currently Amended) The communications system of claim 20, wherein the feedback channel comprises a pilot channel having the power control bit.

22. (Currently Amended) The communications system of claim 21, wherein the second channel comprises a traffic channel.

23. (Currently Amended) The communications system of claim 21, wherein the second processor is further configured to decrease a gain with the increase in the power of the pilot channel, and transmit the gain to the wireless device to set the power of the second channel by applying the gain to a power level equal to the power of the pilot channel.

24. (Currently Amended) The communications system of claim 23, wherein the second processor is further configured to decrease the gain by an amount equal to an amount by which the pilot channel power is increased.

25. (Currently Amended) The communications system of claim 23, wherein the second processor is further configured to decrease the gain by an amount that is more than an amount by which the pilot channel power is increased.

26. (Currently Amended) The communications system of claim 19, wherein the second processor is further configured to increase the power of the feedback channel in response to a decrease in a target frame error rate by the first processor.

27. (New) A method for forward link power control in a wireless communication system, comprising:  
detecting a quality of a signal received at a base station engaged in soft handoff with a mobile station; and  
increasing a pilot channel transmit power level of the mobile station and decreasing a power gain of other channels in relation to the pilot channel of the mobile station providing that the quality of the received signal is below a predefined target signal quality.

28. (New) An apparatus for forward link power control in a wireless communication system, comprising:  
means for detecting a quality of a signal received at a base station engaged in soft handoff with a mobile station; and  
means for increasing a pilot channel transmit power level of the mobile station and decreasing a power gain of other channels in relation to the pilot channel of the mobile station providing that the quality of the received signal is below a predefined target signal quality.

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